



State of Arizona

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Governor Jan Brewer Announces New Budget and School Facilities Board Directors

John Arnold named OSBP Director; Dean Gray to lead School Facilities Board

PHOENIX – Governor Jan Brewer today announced her selection of John Arnold to lead OSPB. Dean Gray, who currently serves as Deputy Director of Facilities at the School Facilities Board (SFB) will now serve as Executive Director. Mr. Arnold fills the vacancy at OSPB as a result of the promotion of Eileen Klein to Chief of Staff for Governor Brewer.

“Mr. Arnold possesses a deep understanding of the budget process in Arizona, having been involved with state financing for over 12 years,” said Governor Jan Brewer. “I have the utmost confidence in John’s ability to help lead our state through these challenging economic times. Mr. Gray is an excellent choice to lead the School Facilities Board with his extensive experience in the school construction industry. I am delighted to have both Mr. Arnold and Mr. Gray serve as leaders in my administration.”

Mr. Arnold’s role will be Chief Budget Officer and Financial Advisor to Governor Brewer. His responsibilities will include developing and publishing the Executive budget; statewide capital planning; revenue forecasting; service demand forecasting; analysis on the use of federal funds; agency budget oversight; cash flow and liquidity management; development and oversight of major state financial transactions; agency training; financial analysis; applied financial research; maintenance of state budget data; legislative and regulatory financial analysis; public information and education.

Under Mr. Arnold’s guidance as Executive Director of the SFB, the organization successfully constructed 123 new schools, launched an energy efficiency program, completed a 21st century schools analysis, and distributed more than \$270 million in building renovation funds. During his tenure, the SFB used both cash and debt financing to construct new schools and complete school renovations and oversaw the issuance and maintenance of over \$2.5 billion in school related debt. In addition to his duties at the Board, Mr. Arnold served from 2006 to 2008 in the Governor’s Growth Cabinet reviewing and planning for long-term state infrastructure needs related to growth. Mr. Arnold has also been working with the Governor’s Office of Economic Recovery to oversee the distribution of approximately \$300 million in federal State Fiscal Stabilization Funds.

Prior to his appointment as Executive Director, John worked for the SFB as the Deputy Director of Finance, overseeing all financial transactions, developing and implementing the agency budget, maintaining project budgets, and tracking total project costs. Before joining the SFB, Mr. Arnold was the OSBP Education Manager responsible for all K-12 and higher education budgets. He rejoined the budget office in 2002 for a brief time to assist in a transition between budget directors.

Mr. Arnold received his Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Master of Science degrees in Accounting (Taxation) and Public Management from Brigham Young University.

Mr. Dean Gray has been promoted to Executive Director of the SFB. Mr. Gray has over 35 years of experience in the construction field including construction project management, facility management, construction procurement and property management. Previously, Mr. Gray worked for the Washington Elementary School District for 17 years as Operations Manager where he managed new construction and renovation projects for the district. Dean has experience in hazardous waste removal, decommissioning of building components, and demolition.

The SFB administers the Students' FIRST capital finance program funded by appropriations from the State General Fund. SFB oversees the K-12 school facility system, which includes more than 120 million square feet of academic space. The Students FIRST law established a new school facilities fund for the purpose of constructing new schools to meet the minimum adequacy guidelines. The criteria to determine district eligibility for monies from the new school facilities fund are based on annual evaluation and approval of district enrollment projections and the additional square footage that will be needed to maintain adequacy standards in a district.

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